The Royal Marines Association
North Wales Branch

Chairman: (Provisional)	Alan Logan 7 Maes Ffyddion Rhuddlan Denbighshire LL18 2YE Tel: 01745 591205	Treasurer: (Provisional)	Chris Stallard 6 Christina Avenue Prestatyn LL19 7DR Tel: 01745 854833	Secretary: (Provisional)	Sue Logan 7 Maes Ffyddion Rhuddlan Denbighshire LL18 2YE Tel: 01745 591205

Minutes of the first meeting of the North Wales Branch RMA held on Thursday 18th January 2007 at 7.30, The Miners Arms, Meliden

Present: Alan Logan – Chairman (provisional)
Sue Logan – Secretary (provisional)
Chris Stallard – Treasurer (provisional)
Helen Stallard
Colette Harrison
Ted Evans
Eric Vaughan
Lawrence Reynolds
Phillip Williams Jones
Richard Alexander
Jeff Jones
Barry Cahill
Martin Boardman

Apologies: Stephen Flanagan
Mike Beckett
Richard Beckett
Jed Dovey
John Evans
Mike O'Rourke
Alan Hughes

Alan welcomed everyone to the meeting and talked about the RMA and in particular the North Wales Branch and our hopes for its future.

A board meeting was held on Thursday 11th January and a provisional board had been set up to start the branch off and the following temporary positions had been agreed:

Sue Logan to be provisional secretary
Alan Logan to be provisional chairman
Chris Stallard to be provisional treasurer

Alan said there will be an election as soon as we can organise one to appoint the official board. He emphasised how important it was to appoint a Welfare Rep as well. He described the benefits of being a member of the RMA. It is a social organisation set up to support its members providing social events and support when in need. It was expected that the members would have to fundraise to provide funds for the branch, the local sea cadets and RMA Head Office.

Alan said we are going to apply for grants for the funding of 3 trips away each year. These are Graspan in London on 6 May, Lympstone RMA National Reunion in September and Remembrance in London in November. Sue to write to try and secure grants.

We are also hoping to hold a summer ball, corps dinner in October and Christmas dinner each year. However we would need to set up an entertainment committee to organise these.

Alan said he had high hopes for the branch as we cover a large geographical area – half a country and there should be many former marines and other former servicemen wishing to join.

He said he was hoping to have a small marketing campaign to try and increase the membership and would write a press release.

Chris then read out from the rules the different types of membership available. These are summarised as follows:

- Full membership – former Royal Marines and their families
- Associate membership – Other former servicemen and marine cadets
- Honorary membership – as agreed by the membership
- Affiliated membership – members of other military associations

The cost of membership is £10 made up of £5 to join the RMA Head Office Central Roll and £5 to join the North Wales Branch. Membership is free to anyone over the age of 80. The membership rate for those over 65 is frozen at the rate charged on their 65th birthday.

Alan asked whether there was a marine cadet unit and Chris said there was one in Rhyl. Alan asked if Chris could make contact with them. He wondered if they had a band but said that if not we could ask the airforce cadets as they have one we could perhaps use.

Alan said fundraising suggestions would be appreciated. Lawrence mentioned that his wife worked for Scottish and Newcastle Breweries and that he would ask her to approach them regarding possible sponsorship. Sue to email our letterhead details to Lawrence's wife and write to other companies for sponsorship.

Sue to email globe and laurel to Gary who is making a slate plaque for the door of the pub.

A photograph was taken of Chris presenting the two plaques he has donated to Martin for display in the pub. We are hoping to have a piece in the next Globe and Laurel magazine regarding this.

Subs collected £10.
Membership monies taken £55
Raffle £36

1st prize – Bottle of Rum (Barry Cahill)
2nd prize – Bottle of Wine (Chris and Helen Stallard)
3rd prize – Bottle of Wine (Alan and Sue Logan)
4th prize – Bottle of wine (someone from bar area)

Next meeting:

Thursday 15th February 2007, 7.30 pm, The Miners Arms, Meliden.

Points for next meeting agenda – purchase of the standard and case to hold it